



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: More than 15,000 children are diagnosed with cancer in the United States each year, and one in 285 children will be diagnosed with cancer by age 20; and
- WHEREAS: Childhood cancer occurs regularly, randomly, and does not distinguish between ethnic groups, socioeconomic class, or geographic region. In the U.S., cancer diagnoses among adolescents and young adults is increasing at a greater rate than any other age group except those over the age of 65; and
- WHEREAS: Approximately 50 children are diagnosed with cancer each day. As of 2014, there are roughly 419,000 survivors of childhood and adolescent cancer in the U.S.; and
- WHEREAS: Cancer is the leading cause of death by disease beyond infancy for children in the U.S., and it is estimated that nearly 1,800 children under the age of 19 die due to cancer each year; and
- WHEREAS: Each year, hundreds of children in Georgia face the battle against cancer – a battle that impacts parents, grandparents, loved ones, friends, neighbors, and communities. Many infants, children, and teens will suffer from the long-term effects of comprehensive treatment, including secondary cancers. As many as two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will experience a late effect of chemotherapy or radiation, of which may persist or develop five years after diagnosis; and
- WHEREAS: Although the incidence of childhood cancer has been rising slightly in recent decades, survival rates continue to improve. As a result of greater treatment options, the five-year relative survival rate for childhood cancer is higher than 80 percent. However, survival rates may vary based on the type of cancer and the age of the patient; and
- WHEREAS: Childhood Cancer Awareness Month serves as a valuable opportunity to raise awareness of childhood cancer, including the late-term effects of treatment on childhood cancer survivors and the need for early detection, immediate care, and advanced research; and
- WHEREAS: Many health care professionals, researchers, private philanthropies, and social support organizations are dedicated to helping children and their families by offering social, emotional, spiritual, educational, and financial support. These groups and institutions are committed to generating a greater understanding of childhood cancer and providing assistance to those families affected by the disease; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 2018 as CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 31st day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF